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COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO DR. JAMES JACKSON AND DR.
JOHN C. WARREN.

WE alluded, in the Journal of Nov. 14th, to the tribute of respect and esteem recently paid by the members of the profession in this city to two of their distinguished brethren. Having been disappointed in our hope of receiving an *official* account of the proceedings upon this unique and interesting occasion, we are thrown upon the vague and indistinct traces left upon our own imperfect memory, and such aid as could be obtained from other sources; which, though freely tendered us, is necessarily limited and incomplete. Every one, indeed, seems to have been too thoroughly engaged in the enjoyment of the scene to have retained much recollection of the mere details. We attempt the following sketch, therefore, not with a hope of faithful relation, but with a strong desire of preserving some slight record of an event, to which we of to-day may hereafter refer those of to-morrow, and of teaching those who are not of us nor among us, that there are seasons, when in spite of the prejudices, jealousies, enmities and uncharitableness, with which the followers of our art are reproached, we meet and mingle as those should meet who are engaged in the same honorable, useful and noble work.

The absence of Dr. Warren during the past year is known, we presume, to most of our readers. During this period he has been zealously engaged in the acquisition of new stores of knowledge, and in gaining, by the influence of his personal and professional character, additional respect for American medical science. Having recently returned and resumed his duties as teacher in the School of the University, and Surgeon of the Massachusetts General Hospital, it was felt that some public testimonial should be offered him in recognition of his private worth, professional character and public services. If it gladdened the profession throughout the country, that one of their number was worthy of equal fellowship with the most distinguished of other lands, it was the pride of Boston physicians that this one was a brother. Nor could they forget, while estimating his well-earned fame, that there dwelt with them another claimant upon their gratitude, respect and love. It was resolved, therefore, to invite Dr. James Jackson and Dr. John C. Warren to meet their professional brethren at the Pavilion, on the evening of November 8th, 1838. In accordance with this resolution, the following invitation was sent to each of these gentlemen by the committee appointed for the purpose.

Boston, October 28th, 1838.

DEAR SIR,—A number of the members of the Boston Medical Association, desirous of testifying their respect and esteem for Dr. J. Jackson and Dr. J. C. Warren, and their sense of the valuable services rendered by them to the profession, have appointed us a committee to invite you to a dinner on Thursday, the 8th of November. In the hope that you will accede to the wishes of the profession on this occasion, we remain, respectfully, yours,

EDWARD REYNOLDS,
 ENOCH HALE, JR.,
 D. HUMPHREYS STORER, } Committee.

To this invitation the committee were gratified by receiving the annexed replies.

Pemberton Square, Oct. 29th, 1838.

GENTLEMEN,—I have received your note of yesterday, inviting me, in behalf of a number of the members of the Boston Medical Association, to a dinner with them. My professional brethren of this city have given me so many evidences of their kindness and good will, that I needed nothing more on that score. I receive, however, this unexpected attention with the warmest gratitude, and shall comply with the invitation you have given me with very great pleasure. I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES JACKSON.

To E. Reynolds, M.D.
 E. Hale, Jr., M.D.
 D. H. Storer, M.D. } Committee.

Park Street, Oct. 29th, 1838.

GENTLEMEN,—While I am unconscious that my labors deserve so high a reward as you are pleased to offer, I confess that nothing could be so gratifying to me as the approbation of my professional friends. It gives me, therefore, the greatest pleasure to accept the invitation to a dinner on the 8th November, and I beg you would express to the gentlemen whom you represent, my strong sense of the honor bestowed on me. Very respectfully, Gentlemen, your friend and servant,

JOHN C. WARREN.

To E. Reynolds, M.D.
 Enoch Hale, Jr., M.D.
 D. Humphreys Storer, M.D. } Committee.

On the evening appointed, seventy gentlemen, with their guests, met at the Pavilion, and partook of an elegant, tasteful and abundant entertainment, at which Dr. Jacob Bigelow presided, assisted by Drs. E. Reynolds, E. Hale and D. H. Storer. The cloth having been removed, the President introduced the special object of the occasion with the following appropriate remarks:—

Gentlemen,—It is an unusual occurrence for the members of the medical profession, in any city, to come forth by a spontaneous impulse, to pay the tribute of their respect to individuals, however distinguished, of their own fraternity. The present occasion affords a gratifying testi-

monial of the harmony which exists among the physicians of our own city, as well as of the elevated character and high worth of those in whose honor we have assembled this evening.

We have invited two of the members of our profession to partake with us the festivities of this occasion, not because they are our seniors in standing, not because they have lived and labored among us for the third part of a century ; but because we feel ourselves to be largely their debtors, for the improved state of our social and professional intercourse, for the improved condition of our public institutions, and for the advanced state of medical education and science among us.

It is the distinction of the city of Boston that a free, friendly and gentlemanly intercourse exists among the regular and educated members of the profession, such as is hardly met with in any other city in this country, if, indeed, in the world. That this harmonious state did not always exist, some of us are old enough to remember. That it now exists, is owing mainly to the Boston Medical Association, an institution originally framed and perfected out of dissimilar and discordant materials, in a great measure by the efforts and perseverance of those who are now our guests. That the standard of medical education has been kept up among us, and that practitioners throughout the Commonwealth have been induced to seek for the regular and honorable distinction of being members of a society formed for the mutual good, is another result, to which their labors have essentially contributed. That we have a spacious and well-arranged hospital, in which the knowledge of disease can be extended and the subjects of it relieved, is almost wholly attributable to their untiring and effectual exertions. These things, gentlemen, and more, do we owe to them. If, then, any one should inquire what these men have done for which they are entitled to our grateful remembrance, now and ever, I would answer in the words of the epitaph on the builder of St. Paul's Cathedral, "If you seek for a monument, look around you."

And first in order, gentlemen, I would say to him who is the senior of our guests, that we welcome his presence among us this evening, as that of an old and familiar friend, to whom we have long been accustomed to look for counsel in our doubts, and support in our perplexities. None of us have met him at the bed-side of sickness and not felt that we were instructed ; none of us have gone away from the interview, and not thought the better of our profession. We gladly extend the hand of congratulation to one, to whom, while others have conceded much, himself has assumed nothing ; and who, with an eminence and influence rarely attained among us, has been always courteous, always honorable, and always just to the claims of others. I am sure, Gentlemen, that you will all unite with me in greeting—

Our excellent and distinguished senior guest—the more esteemed, that he has been the longer known—of whom and in whom we would make no change.

After the hearty applause, which marked the reception of the sentiment offered by the chair, had in some degree subsided, Dr. Jackson, evidently suffering from indisposition which rendered it difficult for him to

speaking, expressed his acknowledgments for the manner in which his name had been mentioned. Knowing that it was the general wish of the profession that a welcome should be extended to his respected friend, on his safe return, he felt indebted to their kindness for allowing him a share in the complimentary congratulation: though he regretted that physical inability prevented him from testifying his pleasure more satisfactorily. Dr. Jackson then sketched rapidly the profession as it was at the date of his entrance upon it—the most prominent men in its ranks at that time—the changes that had taken place in the modes of practice, professional intercourse and acquirements. He believed that in all essential points, the profession in Boston presented an enviable degree of professional harmony and union, and proposed the following sentiment:

The Boston Medical Association—may its members always continue to be distinguished by mutual forbearance, respect and good will.

We are conscious how imperfect the details of a report must of necessity be—but the very meagreness of our abstract will by contrast recal the great pleasure occasioned by the original. To no part of the proceedings will this remark apply so forcibly as to the interchange of courtesy which followed the annunciation of the preceding sentiment. It was thus begun by Dr. Reynolds, one of the Vice Presidents.

"The spontaneous expression of good feeling, Mr. President, elicited by the well-deserved compliment to our senior guest, and by the renewed manifestation of the personal and professional kindnesses we have all received at his hands, in the remarks to which we have listened with such pleasurable satisfaction, were, I am bound to say, but the outpouring of full hearts and the utterance of truth-speaking lips: and, looking onwards as years and generations roll away, I can anticipate none when his name shall cease to be regarded by Boston physicians with respect and affectionate recollection. Whatever of courtesy, or kindness, or brotherly love, we have towards each other—and in the profession of our city I am happy to say there is much—you have truly attributed mainly to his example and exertions. But in prolonging the grateful vibrations of the chord to which our hearts have so freely responded, I am wandering from the intention with which I arose. It was to call your attention to another, worthy to share in the meed of honor due those who contribute to the advancement and improvement of the medical profession. I need not name him. It is a time-honored name—identified with the cause of freedom and of science. It was borne by one who, we all know full well, in the ardor of his devotion to liberty gave his life when life was at its highest worth. It was borne by another as worthy and as devoted—who in the armies of his country, while she needed him, rendered his utmost aid, and relaxed not his efforts nor checked his zeal when called to labor in a more private sphere. As the founder of the medical school, and for years a successful and brilliant teacher, we owe him much: how much, they alone can tell who remember the unmatched felicity with which he communicated knowledge. It should afford us gratification that to such a man there has succeeded one able to sustain and add to the reputation he has inherited, willing

and able to contribute so largely to the great cause of medical improvement. To his efforts we are indebted, in conjunction with his respected colleague, for a well-ordered hospital, where the student can learn not only by the lessons of others, but by the still more valuable medium of personal observation; and where the older practitioner, whose early opportunities of gaining knowledge were comparatively stinted, may avail himself of all the improvements developed by the rapid progress of modern science. This obligation is still increasing, and the professional zeal which created it is still urging him onwards at a period when a long course of unremitted labor would seem to demand relaxation, if not complete repose; a zeal which, amid the allurements of foreign lands, could convert a tour of pleasure into an occasion of common profit to us all, by the respect gained for the American medical profession, by the surgical improvements introduced among us, by the beautiful and valuable preparations which, at great expense, he has added to our anatomical museum—a collection destined to remain another imperishable monument of munificent liberality, public spirit and professional zeal.

Mr. President and Gentlemen, permit me to offer you—

Our Junior Guest—the accomplished anatomist, the able teacher, the distinguished surgeon—combining the energy of youth with the experience of age. On his return among us, we extend to him a cordial welcome."

We shall not attempt even an outline of Dr. Warren's reply. Those who heard him will long remember the pleasure with which, for an hour or more, they listened to the graphic sketches of foreign scenes and character, of the condition of science, of the profession, and of many other objects which met his observing eye; and, above all, they will recal with pride his earnestly expressed conviction, that nowhere in all Europe, or all America, was there more unity of purpose, professional honor, and kindly intercourse, than in our own beloved city; a conviction, as he remarked, which, though he had received much kindness and many attentions elsewhere, was founded not only upon the proceedings of the present occasion, but also upon long-continued previous personal experience. It was a tribute the more valued, that it was unreservedly paid by one fresh from the fascinating influences of foreign travel—and, we may also say, from the consciousness that it was so truly merited. After repeatedly yielding to the unanimous calls to proceed, which his fears of trespassing upon the patience of his auditors called forth, Dr. Warren concluded with the following sentiment, in which is embodied a whole code of medical ethics.

Our Profession.—Justice to our patients—good will towards each other.

Dr. Warren having resumed his seat, Dr. Storer addressed the chair. "Meeting as we do this day, Sir (he remarked), to offer a willing tribute of respect and esteem to our distinguished associates, some of the remote causes which have tended to produce this unity of purpose, naturally present themselves to the mind. It would be an extremely gratifying duty to review the past, and to dwell upon those incidents which, connected, have associated us so closely together—which urge us to ad-

vance the prospects, to sustain the reputation, and to rejoice at the success of each other. This duty, however, I shall not attempt to perform, but would merely revert to that link in the chain which, to me, appears to have been the strongest—to which, more than to any other, we can look, as a profession, for our present enviable condition, and beg leave to offer—

The Massachusetts Medical Society;—for more than half a century it has exerted an incalculable influence upon professional education and professional character. It will continue to be what it ever has been, so long as it can claim the services of such men as its present enlightened, munificent and respected President."

Dr. Shattuck, President of the Society, briefly and happily acknowledged the compliment. We regret having no notes of his very appropriate remarks and toast.

It was a striking peculiarity of the meeting that it was composed of middle-aged and young men; and the peculiarity marks the profession in this city. There is not, we believe, a septuagenarian on the catalogue of the Association. A very large proportion of its members was unborn at the period when those who were now their honored guests entered upon their professional career; and we could not but be struck, while looking around, by the remarkable disproportion between the raven and the silver hair. It was probably the same remark that elicited the prelude to a toast by Dr. Hale. He concurred entirely in all that had been said by his friends who had preceded him. He rejoiced, however, that in doing justice to the merits of our elders in the profession, we were not obliged to exclaim—"We ne'er shall look upon their like again." He could not, indeed, look about him without feeling assured that there never will be wanting a body of men well fitted to carry forward the institutions we have received from our predecessors, and to maintain and increase the respectability and usefulness of our profession.

He did not intend, in these remarks, to pass over the occasion which brought us together. If the Roman matron might proudly point to her children as her brightest jewels, the teachers of medicine might, with no less propriety, refer to their pupils, especially to the pupils of their maturer years, as the fittest exhibition of the character of their instructions, the influence of their example, and the tendency of the institutions which they have cherished. And where, Sir, can such an appeal be found to yield a more flattering testimony than is presented by the younger part of this community of physicians. Passing by those to whom a sprinkling of gray hairs gives unwelcome admonition of advancing years, we behold a body of young men devoted to the pursuit of medical knowledge, with a zeal and energy, and at the same time with a spirit of harmony and concert, alike honorable to themselves, and to those, whoever they may be, from whom this spirit has been transmitted. The cultivation of science has produced its legitimate effects by banishing discord and increasing mutual confidence and good fellowship. It need not be said, that while such continue to be the leading objects of pursuit, while professional merit is regarded as the chief means of professional distinction, our profession will not fail to secure its full share of

favor. He would conclude the remarks which had extended beyond his design, by proposing—

The Young Men of the Profession.—Their zeal and industry, with their liberal sentiments and good fellowship, shall make them wiser than their teachers—may their success be as signal.

Dr. O. W. Holmes responded to this sentiment, on behalf of his junior brethren.

Dr. Holmes remarked that he was receiving hints, both audible and sensible, to reply to the sentiment of Dr. Hale. That sentiment must be indeed grateful to the younger members of the profession, of whom he for the moment stood as the unworthy representative, for the distinction between age and youth had been no where more rigidly enforced than among medical men, from the remotest times. The reverend attributes of age had been considered alike essential to the bard and to the physician; the white beard descending upon their bosoms, and the hoary locks that

“Streamed like a meteor to the troubled air,”

being among the most indispensable qualifications for their calling. It was perhaps well that more recent times had relaxed somewhat in their exactions upon this point; the academies and colleges of London and Paris, indeed of all the more important scientific centres, being disposed to welcome all who dare enter the lists of knowledge, at whatever age, and the publishers of Blackwood's and Bentley's showing a similar indifference to the epoch of existence at which their first-rate articles are written.

Still it is too often true, even now, that the young man is allowed to become gray in his profession before he is considered to have arrived at the adult age. Like some of our great vessels in the navy yard, after infinite time and labor have been expended in fitting him for action, he is left idle upon the stocks, until his seams are all gaping, and he would hardly be found seaworthy if he were launched. And therefore we, who are coming forward and asking ardently for our places to fill and our duties to perform while the strength and the freshness of the morning is upon us, would welcome with delight the growth and the expression of that cordial feeling which tends to unite all ages in the pursuit of a common end. It might, perhaps, become our years to shrink with maiden modesty from the sentiment just conveyed; to fold our arms upon our breasts like ingenuous adolescents, and receive the honorable notice of our elders in silence. But as it not merely conveys a feeling, but also contains a principle, we would rather meet it with open hand and accept the tribute which it offers; not so much as individuals forming the younger section in a little medical republic, almost unrivalled for the harmony which pervades all its divisions, as because in the great commonwealth of science there is no real distinction depending on outward shapes and symbols.

Dr. Holmes then gave the following sentiment:—

The age of the followers of truth; to be estimated not like that of the rocks, by the gray moss at its summit or the crumbling fragments

at its base, but like that of the oak, by the ever-expanding and multiplying circles of intellectual growth and development.

Dr. Peirson, of Salem, was next called out by an exceedingly neat and pointed toast from the chair.

Following him Drs. Ware and Channing made appropriate replies to the sentiments announced by the President, of which we are sorry to have no record.

On a requisition from the President, Dr. Storer gave

The Medical School of Maine—most fortunate in possessing a *Joseph* able to interpret all the mysteries which may be referred to him.

Dr. Roby acknowledged, in a few words, the compliment, in behalf of the institution with which he is connected.

The gratification of the company was not a little increased by several glees and songs from different gentlemen, among which two original songs by Dr. Holmes were pre-eminently applauded; one of which gave rise to the following remarks by the Chairman, who observed that the pleasure we have derived from the song we have just heard is in some measure qualified by a knowledge of the fact that a literary institution in a neighboring State had been forming plans to abduct its author from among us. Dartmouth College, if I am rightly informed, is an institution originally founded for the purpose of educating the Indians. I have not been told how far its venerable founders succeeded in their laudable efforts for inducing the natives of the forest to attend to the study of the dead languages, as a substitute for the pleasure of scalping their dead enemies. At any rate, we have good reason for believing that the State of New Hampshire is now in a much more civilized condition than before the foundation of Dartmouth College. But while the superintendents of that seminary have conferred so many benefits on the aborigines, they have themselves imbibed so much of the true aboriginal taste, as to have become ambitious of placing a feather in their caps obtained from one of our most brilliant songsters. We trust that the separation may be but for a season, and in the meantime we will join in a toast to the honor of

Dartmouth College.—She has persuaded distinguished chiefs to lay down the scalping knife, and distinguished physicians to take up the scalpel.

Dr. Holmes observed, in reply, that the President had very kindly remembered one of the scholars who had become a teacher: he would propose

The Teachers, who should always remain scholars; in exchanging the bench for the chair, let them beware lest they make its back too high, its seat too soft, its arms too ample; remembering that it is better to listen well from a pine plank, than to teach ill from a velvet cushion.

But we are reminded that this sketch is exceeding its proposed dimensions; and that as it extends, its incompleteness becomes more visible. Checking all farther effort at recollection, we finish with a single sentiment, which points out the source from which all the pleasure of the occasion sprung:—

“That peculiarity which distinguishes the physicians of Boston from

those of every other city ; which upon all matters of vital importance, whether relating to their own institutions or to the interests of the community, unites them as one man : *mutual respect—mutual confidence—harmony of principle.*"

CASE OF WORMS.

BY PHINEAS SPALDING, M.D.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

Mrs. S., after having been treated three years for dyspepsia, liver complaint, hysteria, spinal irritation and leucorrhœa, came under my care Nov. 3d, 1826, with the following symptoms. Great debility, barely able to walk about ; emaciation ; skin dry, with frequently a red spot upon one or both cheeks ; countenance generally pale ; upper lip considerably swollen ; tongue slightly coated, edges red ; gums soft and spongy ; breath offensive ; a slight cough, but no expectoration ; appetite irregular, at times quite craving ; bowels tumefied, generally costive ; dejections bilious, at times clay colored, and the fæces occasionally were improperly digested.

There was painful menstruation, with a constant leucorrhœa, mostly of the milky character. Urine was high colored, dark and scanty, at times large quantities and perfectly colorless. Pain in the head, back and limbs, alternately ; spine tender its whole length, but very much so over the lower dorsal vertebra. Pulse feeble, very easily compressed, and not accelerated ; nervous system very excitable, and a fixed apprehension that no remedies could be adapted to her case. She had been bled, cupped, blistered, physicked, had caustic issues to the spine, used female injections, and, in short, almost exhausted the materia medica for remedies, to no purpose.

After taking into consideration the whole history of the case, I came to the conclusion that worms might be the exciting cause of all her difficulties. Gave her one and a half ounce of the spirits of turpentine, followed the next day with a large dose of calomel and jalap, which brought away more than one hundred lumbrici, after which she took large doses of Caroline pink, followed by an infusion of senna and sulphate of magnesia, with occasionally the extract of butternut. In the course of three weeks about as many more were discharged, some of which were enormously large for this variety of worms. Her unpleasant symptoms immediately abated, and in a few weeks she resumed her ordinary labors, considering herself quite well, until March last, when she took a violent cold and had a most severe cough, with some fever and much stricture upon the lungs, but no pain or soreness about the chest. She had had a leucorrhœa for some weeks, and the spine had become somewhat tender on pressure.

After being bled a few times, applying a blister to the chest, and other remedies commonly used in diseases of the lungs, her fever abated and breathing became easy, but the cough continued unabated, and was

but very little affected by what had been done. Presuming that worms might have a controlling influence, she resorted to her former course, took spirits of turpentine, calomel, Caroline pink and senna, as before, and in a few weeks discharged over one hundred very large lumbrici, after which her cough immediately abated, bowels became regular, leucorrhœa ceased, and she has since remained perfectly well.

There appears to be in her constitution a peculiar disposition for the generation of worms, and it is highly probable that they will collect again. In children this is a common occurrence; but in adults, worms in the alimentary canal are rare, and when once removed the patient is generally ever after free from them.

This case throws some light upon what is commonly denominated spinal irritation. It has been considered by some writers, and many good physicians, that this disease arises from irritation at the origin of the nerves of the spine, transmitted to the several organs to which they are distributed, exciting in them all the symptoms of idiopathic disease. However true this may be in certain instances, it is more than probable that in the great majority of cases the irritation is in the mucous membrane, transmitted by direct sympathy to the spinal marrow and origin of the nerves. The little success in the treatment of so many cases of neuralgia is probably owing to inattention to the digestive organs, and not discriminating between those cases which depend upon derangement of the nervous trunks and spinal marrow, and those which result from continuous sympathy, kept up in a great measure by irritating causes operating upon the delicate and susceptible tissue of the alimentary canal. We also see illustrated very clearly the intimate relation one portion of the mucous membrane has with the others. The cough, leucorrhœa, strangury, irregular urine in quantity and quality, without doubt arose from the irritation produced by the worms.

Irritation in the bowels not only manifests itself by deranging the organs directly affected, but frequently excites in parts far remote a sympathetic action, which is often mistaken for the primary disease. This is peculiarly the case in many cutaneous affections.

Boston, Nov. 29th, 1838.

BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

BOSTON, DECEMBER 12, 1838.

THE COMPLIMENTARY DINNER.

We refer our readers to the body of the Journal for an account of the recent professional dinner. We should hardly have ventured to publish it at this late date, had we not committed ourselves by an express promise to that effect; and were it not for the strong desire expressed by some of our friends that some notice should be taken of the event. We may add to these inducements a wish to meet the sneers and doubts

thrown out in some quarters (not in our own city), as to the spirit in which the occasion originated and was conducted. We can assure all who have need of such assurance, that the feelings manifested were but the same feelings which regulate the every-day intercourse of the physicians of Boston—whose rules of duty and honor are universally recognized and revered. We have been governed for thirty-two years by a liberal and just code of professional law, and are now reaping its benefits; benefits which include a degree of harmony, of forbearance, of good will, of charity and conciliation, which no other similar body can at present claim, but which all may earn who choose to be guided by our motto—"SUSTINE ET ABSTINE."

Filling Decayed Teeth.—Can a solvent be found for some hard substance, like quartz, for example, which, when introduced into a hollow tooth, will speedily harden, by the evaporation of the fluid which held it in solution? For a chemical discovery of this kind, which shall meet the approbation of a committee of respectable, scientific dentists, either in Boston, New York or Philadelphia, at the expiration of one year from the time the preparation is first used on a carious tooth, completely restoring it to primitive usefulness, the editor of this Journal is authorized to present the discoverer with *three hundred dollars in cash*, and a highly finished copy of *Ree's Cyclopedia*, in *forty quarto volumes*—provided the method is faithfully explained, and all right and title to it is relinquished to the gentleman offering the premium, to be made public for the general benefit of society, or not, according to his own option.

Artificial Mineral Teeth.—Dr. Tucker, an operative dentist of this city, who has long been associated with Dr. Harwood, the ingenious constructor of a mineral nose, of which so much notice was taken about a year ago, has made an improvement in the manufacture of artificial mineral teeth, which is very deserving of notoriety. In those cases in which an entire set for the jaw is required, the teeth are made in blocks of two or three together, with a most perfect imitation of the gum. These are fitted by a broad base on a grooved plate of gold, in a way to be much firmer and more serviceable than by any method now generally pursued. The imitation is complete, and bears close examination. Another advantage over the ordinary process of fastening the teeth to the plate by perpendicular pivots, arises from the circumstance of having them riveted horizontally within the groove, which wholly prevents them from becoming loose or being forced from their place in mastication. We were present, the other day, when a lady, utterly toothless, had a double set, about thirty in number, embracing both the front and grinding teeth, beautifully wrought on this new plan, first introduced into the mouth. Never did we witness a more striking metamorphosis—from hollow cheeks, retreating lips and shortened face, the index of age, the entire expression was instantaneously changed to the fulness of youth. The lady laughed, as well she might, exhibiting such pearly rows as Cadmus would select, were he to sow a second crop. So perfect were they, both as it regarded the appearance and functions of the new organs, that no person unacquainted with the circumstance would ever suspect them to be the handwork of art.

Dr. Hosack's Lectures.—Some pretty severe remarks have been made in conversational circles on the volume recently sent forth by the Rev. Dr. Ducachet. It should be borne in mind that the compiler labored under many disadvantages, and expressly tells the reader in the preface, "that he must have heard and seen the man, to understand what he was in the lecture room." No disposition has been manifested to write it out of being here, and we trust it will not be the case anywhere. It is certainly a pleasant work, always instructive, and a thousand times superior to the cargoes of medical trash which have been elaborated since the death of the lamented author. Before condemning it, it is advisable to give it a reading; and let those who can do better, throw the first stone.

Dr. Morton on American Skulls.—A second series of specimen plates were received from Philadelphia, the last week, which show both the fidelity of the artist in copying from nature, and the success of the lithographic press in that city. It was the intention of the author to have completed the illustrations, and placed the volume in a finished condition in the hands of subscribers, about this time; but owing to the impossibility of procuring proper assistance to accomplish the drawings within the period originally proposed, and being unwilling to send forth a great national monument of individual research, imperfectly executed, he has concluded to defer the publication till next July. This is judicious in Dr. Morton; he had better take to himself another entire year than force it through the press in an unfinished condition. The ground is emphatically his own; and, what is still better, there is no fear of a competitor; if the production in the sequel actually meets his own approbation:—when he is satisfied with his own labor, the public will be also.

Hospital Operations.—The inquiry is frequently made, why the journals do not make more frequent observations upon hospital practice in the great cities? In the first place, it is literally impossible to collect the details of all the operations; and moreover it would not always prove so instructive as imagined, even were it perfectly easy to obtain the necessary information. Hospital, like private practice, is characterized by periods of repose, in which there are no striking cases—nothing of marked interest to the general reader. Whenever there are extraordinary events, anything out of the common course, which promises to be of utility to others in the way of precedent or authority, so far as we are individually concerned, no pains are spared in collecting every jot and tittle of the matter. Again, all professional men are not operative surgeons, nor do they so delight in vivid accounts of compound fractures, skilfully amputated limbs, or long descriptions of the topography of tumors weighing forty pounds, as to eschew all other kinds of medical reading. In a word, all tastes are to be gratified, but none should be surfeited.

A Missionary Physician.—In consequence of the ill health of Dr. Grant, often referred to in this Journal, he has been obliged to leave the City of Ooroomiah, in Persia, and will establish himself hereafter among the Nestorians, on the western side of the Koordish mountains, in Mesopotamia. The Commissioners for Foreign Missions, therefore, wish to

procure a physician to take the place of Dr. Grant, the ensuing spring. A medical man, of suitable qualifications, desirous of travelling over one of the most interesting parts of the old world, under the auspices of the Foreign Missionary Society, would, perhaps, never have a better opportunity. He should possess good health, good address, great prudence, an aptitude for giving instruction, be well acquainted with his profession, and, lastly, says the Herald, of "devoted piety." A physician is also wanted, by the same board, for a mission in Syria. Letters from applicants should be addressed to the Secretaries of the A. B. C. F. M., Missionary Rooms, No. 28 Cornhill, Boston.

Osteo-Sarcoma.—A pamphlet of eight pages, entitled "A Case of Osteo-Sarcoma, with remarks addressed to Valentine Mott, M.D., by Dr. E. H. Dixon," has reached us—which goes on to say that a gentleman of the nervo-sanguineous temperament, three years ago, fell through a trap door and alighted astride a beam, six or eight feet below. A tumor was developed in consequence, under the superior attachment of the gracilis muscles of the right side. The patient was subjected to the Homœopathic treatment till he was weary of doing nothing, and finally, on the 16th of October, had it removed by Dr. J. K. Rodgers, between the hours of 11 and 1—in presence of the author, it is presumed. Whether the man lived or not, the pamphleteer forgot to mention—so that the atmosphere of the report is too murky for us here at the North. On the whole, we do not distinctly understand the object of this mode of drawing up a case, unless it be to notify the good citizens of New York that the author resides at No. 13 Mercer Street.

Westminster Hospital.—Sir Anthony Carlisle, the senior surgeon of the Westminster Hospital, has made a gross blunder in certifying to the decided insanity of one Thomas Holmes, whom he recommended the governors of the institution to have removed to a lunatic asylum, when, in fact, the patient, who entered in consequence of a severe injury of the wrist, had nothing more or less than delirium tremens. The certificates of two medical men, in England, will deprive any one of her majesty's subjects of liberty, tear him from his own fireside, and consign him to the society of madmen, a straight jacket, and the control of a keeper of a lunatic prison. A physician cannot be too careful in giving an opinion upon a subject so delicate as that of deciding upon the sanity or insanity of an individual with whose history he has not been long and familiarly conversant.

Bad Effect of the Reflection of Strong Light upon the Eye.—Case. A lady from the country, coming to reside in St. James's Square, was afflicted with pain in the eyes, and a decay of sight. She could not look upon the stones when the sun shone upon them, without great pain. Her eyes, which had been accustomed to the verdure of the country and the green of the pasture grounds before her house, could not bear the violent and unnatural glare of light reflected from the pavement of the streets. She was advised to place a number of green plants in the windows, so that their tops might hide the pavement. She recovered by this simple change in the light, without the assistance of any medicine, though the eyes before were on the verge of blindness.

Puzzling Differences in Results.—The following fact manifests the care which is required in conducting scientific investigations, and the caution with which peremptory opinions should be pronounced in the early stages of an inquiry. Caoutchouc, or "Indian rubber," cannot be dissolved either in water, alcohol, any acid, or any alkali, but it is soluble in ether. Macquer, in 1767, pointed out this latter fact, which Bernard afterwards attempted to put to the test, subsequently declaring that Macquer had erred, for that caoutchouc was scarcely soluble at all in sulphuric ether (which Macquer had used), and that even nitric ether did not perfectly dissolve it. This difference of announcement was singular, each chemist being remarkable for powers of observation and a character for accuracy, and his acquaintance with the subject examined. But Mr. Cavallo discovered that the truth apparently belonged to both; that Macquer was quite right, while Bernard was not wholly wrong. He found that ether, when newly prepared, seldom or never dissolved caoutchouc completely, but that if the ether was first washed in water it dissolved caoutchouc with facility. The washing of ether, says Dr. Thomson in his "Chemistry of Organic Bodies," deprives it of a little alcohol, with which it is often impregnated, and adds to it a tenth of water. Alcohol will precipitate caoutchouc from this solution. —*London Lancet.*

Abdominal Inflammation during Pregnancy.—Mr. Wilkinson, of Aspatia, informs us, that since his recent communication was made to the *Lancet*, in which he pointed out the advantage and utility of employing mercury, and the safety of administering cathartics in abdominal inflammation occurring during pregnancy, he has treated a similar case in a woman not pregnant, where the mucous membrane of the bowels was involved, and the disease yielded to copious depletion, fomentations, warm oily enemata, and a combination of calomel, opium and ipecac., in small doses, frequently repeated. The disease quickly subsided after the mouth became affected with the mercury, and the woman has quite recovered. —*Ibid.*

New Tincture.—The absence of education among many of the dispensing chemists frequently leads to awful mistakes. It is not of so much consequence when jalap is simply mistaken for rhubarb, but when laudanum is replaced for syrup of poppies, or stavesacre sold for jalap, and oxalic acid for Epsom salts, the error is more momentous. Sometimes the blunder is only laughable. A "chemist" had lately a prescription to prepare, in which, after a certain infusion was ordered, there came the words, "Tincturæ ejusdem." But he happened not to have a morsel of "Ejusdem" in the house, either in tincture, powder or infusion, though his shop was filled with bottles and drawers, and fitted up as fine as a gin palace. He therefore promptly sent to Messrs. Godfrey & Cooke, for a small quantity of "Tincturæ Ejusdem," not doubting that every tincture in the world was to be had there, whether "that same," as Pat would say, or some other. —*Ibid.*

Lithotripsy in a Child.—It has been asserted upon high surgical authority in this country, that the operation of lithotripsy is not applicable to

cases of urinary calculus occurring in the child. The experience of some of the French surgeons is completely opposed to this doctrine.

M. Segalas lately presented to the Royal Academy of Medicine a boy nearly five years of age, whom he had operated on with success for vesical calculus. This child was weakly and affected with rickets, and did not appear to be more than two and a half, or three years of age. He was the oldest child amongst ten, upon whom M. Segalas had, as yet, operated. The calculus, in this case, was a large one, being an inch and a quarter in diameter. Twelve sittings were required to break it up, and on three different occasions fragments of the stone became arrested in the bladder. Notwithstanding these unfavorable circumstances, the boy was completely cured, and in the interval of the sittings was able to run about and play with his companions. On the whole, M. Segalas declares, as the result of his experience, that whenever the instrument can penetrate to the foreign body, the operation of lithotritry, like that of lithotomy, presents the more chance of success in proportion to the youth of the patient.—*Gazette Med. de Paris.*

Medical Miscellany.—Smallpox is rife in Halifax and Henry Counties, Virginia.—Dr. S. Forry, Assistant Surgeon of the 3d Regiment, has accompanied the troops to Florida.—There is a child in the town of Scituate, Mass., between 10 and 12 years of age, who was born without either legs or arms, with the single exception of a little member resembling a part of a finger, with the first joint, on the left shoulder, with which it can open a box or pick up a cent. He rolls himself about like a ball, with facility; has a good countenance, good health, and an intelligent mind, constantly improving at school.—It is mentioned in Eliot's Travels, that when a person in Poland is bitten by a mad dog, a minute examination is made, after a day or two, for certain light, small, red pustules under the tongue, which are cut out, caustic applied, and the American Consul asserts that the cure is then complete.—Amongst other strange things, it is asserted that a dash of cold water over the head will arrest, for a considerable time, the poisonous effects of prussic acid.—On the night of the 27th of November, an Irish woman gave birth to a stout child, at the House of Correction, in this city, while asleep in her cell, and positively declared that she knew nothing about it until awakened by the infant's cries. When the door was opened by the watchman, the prisoner came out and walked up three flights of stairs to the hospital, though feeling quite well.—Smallpox has appeared at West Essex, in the State of New York.—Dr. Warren's Surgical Observations on Tumors, which was favorably noticed by the foreign medical periodicals, has been re-published in London, in royal 8vo.

Whole number of deaths in Boston for the week ending Dec. 8, 37. Males, 17—females, 20.

Of consumption, 8—fever, 1—hemorrhage of the lungs, 1—dropsy on the brain, 1—infantile, 3—lung fever, 1—scarlet fever, 2—typhous fever, 2—marasmus, 1—burn, 2—intemperance, 1—slow paralysis, 1—brain fever, 2—inflammation of the lungs, 1—croup, 1—old age, 1—fits, 1—convulsions, 1—tumor, 1—jaundice, 1—child-bed, 1—inflammation of the bowels, 1—stillborn, 3.

FOR SALE,

WITHIN thirty miles of Boston, an estate now occupied by a physician, who is about to leave the place. It will be sold at cost, which is between 2500 and 3000 dollars. The practice is a valuable one, as can be satisfactorily shown to any applicant. For name and place, inquire at this office; if by mail, post paid.

Nov 21—31

VACCINE VIRUS.

PHYSICIANS in any section of the United States can procure ten quills charged with PURE VACCINE VIRUS by return mail, on addressing the editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, enclosing one dollar, post paid, without which no letter will be taken from the post office. Oct. 25.

FALLING OF THE WOMB CURED BY EXTERNAL APPLICATION.

DR. A. G. HULL'S UTERO-ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER is offered to those afflicted with *Prolapsus Uteri*, or *Falling of the Womb*, and other diseases depending upon a relaxation of the abdominal muscles, as an instrument in every way calculated for relief and permanent restoration to health. When this instrument is carefully and properly fitted to the form of the patient, it invariably affords the most immediate immunity from the distressing "*dragging and bearing-down*" sensations which accompany nearly all cases of visceral displacements of the abdomen, and its skillful application is always followed by an early confession of radical relief from the patient herself. The Supporter is of simple construction, and can be applied by the patient without further aid. Within the last three years nearly 1500 of the *Utero-Abdominal Supporters* have been applied with the most happy results.

The very great success which this instrument has met, warrants the assertion, that its examination by the physician will induce him to discard the disgusting Pessary hitherto in use. It is gratifying to state that it has met the decided approbation of Sir Astley Cooper, of London, Edward Belfield, M.D., Professor of Midwifery, University of the State of New York, of Professors of Midwifery in the different Medical Schools of the United States, and every other Physician or Surgeon who has had a practical knowledge of its qualities, as well as every patient who has worn it.

The public and medical profession are cautioned against impositions in this instrument, as well as in Trusses vended as mine, which are unsafe and vicious imitations. The genuine Trusses bear my signature in writing on the label, and the Supporter has its title embossed upon its envelope.

AMOS G. HULL, Office 4 Vesey Street, Astor House, New York.
The Subscribers having been appointed Agents for the sale of the above instruments, all orders addressed to them will be promptly attended to.

Jan. 3.

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LOWE & REED,

24 Merchants Row, Boston.

SCHOOL FOR MEDICAL INSTRUCTION.

THE Subscribers propose establishing a private Medical School, to go into operation the first of September next. The advantages of the Massachusetts General Hospital and other public institutions will be secured to the pupils; and every attainable facility will be afforded for anatomical pursuits.

Regular oral instructions and examinations in all the branches of the profession, will form a part of the plan intended to be pursued.

On the Practice of Medicine and Materia Medica, by - - - DR. BIGELOW.

On Anatomy and Surgery, by - - - DR. REYNOLDS.

On Midwifery and Chemistry, by - - - DR. STORER.

On Physiology and Pathology, by - - - DR. HOLMES.

Dissections will be carried on throughout the year, and a course of Lectures on Practical Anatomy and Surgery will be given in the interval between the Medical Lectures of Harvard University.

A room will be provided in a central part of the city, with all the conveniences required by students.

JACOB BIGELOW,
EDWARD REYNOLDS,
D. HUMPHREYS STORER,
OLIVER W. HOLMES.

Boston, August 17, 1838.

Aug 22—ep3m

MEDICAL SCHOOL OF MAINE.

THE Medical Lectures at Bowdoin College will commence on Monday, the 18th day of February, 1839.

Anatomy and Surgery, by JOSEPH RORY, M.D., of Boston.

Theory and Practice of Physic, Obstetrics, and Medical Jurisprudence, by JAMES MCKENNA, M.D.

Chemistry and Materia Medica, by PARKER CLEVELAND, M.D.

The Anatomical Cabinet and the Library are annually increasing.

Every person becoming a member of this Institution, is required previously to present satisfactory evidence of possessing a good moral character.

The amount of fees for the lectures is \$50, payable in advance. The lectures continue three months.

Degrees are conferred at the close of the Lecture Term in May, and at the following Commencement of the College in September.

Brunswick, Me., October, 1838.

D. 5—eop61

P. CLEVELAND, Secretary.

PRIVATE MEDICAL INSTRUCTION.

THE subscribers are associated for the purpose of giving a complete course of medical instruction. Their pupils will have regular access to the medical and surgical practice of the Massachusetts General Hospital. They will be admitted, also, to the practice of the House of Correction, which constantly presents a large number of important cases, and where opportunities will be afforded for acquiring a practical knowledge of compounding and dispensing medicines. They will be furnished with opportunities for the study of Practical Anatomy, not inferior to any in the country. To the pupils, particularly to those in the last year of their professional studies, facilities will be afforded for acquiring a personal acquaintance with private medical and obstetric practice. Instruction by examinations or lectures will be given in the different branches of medical studies, during the interval between the public lectures of the University. Books, and a room with fire and lights, will be furnished to the students at the expense of the instructors.

GEORGE C. SHATTUCK,
WALTER CHANNING,
JOHN WARE,
GEORGE W. OTIS,
WINSLOW LEVING.

Oct 31—epif

THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL is published every Wednesday, by D. CLAPP, JR. at 181 Washington Street, corner of Franklin Street, to whom all communications must be addressed, *post-paid*. It is also published in Monthly Parts, each Part containing the weekly numbers of the preceding month, stitched in a cover. J. V. C. SMITH, M.D. Editor.—Price \$3.00 a year in advance. \$3.50 after three months, and \$4.00 if not paid within the year.—Agents allowed every seventh copy *gratis*.—Orders from a distance must be accompanied by payment in advance, or satisfactory reference.—Postage the same as for a Newspaper.